THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The export of aluminium by NALCO, average domestic price and export price of aluminium during the last three years are as under.—

Year	Export of aluminium (percentage of production)	Domestic price (Rs./Tonne)	Export price (Rs/Tonne)
1998-99	27	67606	60379
1999-2000	45	73304	80049
2000-2001	52	79070	84856

(b) and (c) Representations have been received from secondary manufacturers for abolition of custom duty. There are no price controls on aluminium. Aluminium is kept under Open General Licence (OGL) category for import/export. The prices of aluminium metal and products are determined by market forces.

Nickel Plant in Orissa

3620. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have any proposal to set up a Nickel Plant in Orissa, since the technology proving of extraction of Nickel from Chrome Overburden has since been completed in February, 2001 by the Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far for techno-economic feasibility and commercial exploitation of Nickel and other associated material in the market; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision so far to entrust the above job to any company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) At present there is no proposal for setting up of a Nickel extraction plant in State of Orissa.

(b) and (c) The Technology for extraction of Nickel from Chromite overburden has been developed jointly by Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) and

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). As per the MOU signed by HZL and CSIR, HZL has the first option for use of technology. The Board of HZL has approved the preparation of a Techno-economic Feasibility Report.

Schemes for ocean development

3621. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes/programmes for the development of the ocean in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; if so, details of funds allocated to undertake Ocean Development programmes during the last three years year-wise, till date; and

(b) what are the details of the physical targets achieved during the said period, year-wise and programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details of some of the major programmes are given below:

- The monitoring of marine pollution in the coastal waters of Andhra Pradesh is going on from the year 1990-91. Studies for marine pollution are made at Krishnapatnam, Nizamapatnam, Vishakhapatnam Harbour & Steel Plant, Kakinada Bay, Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam.
- The project on development of GIS based Information System for management of the critical habitats of Coringa mangroves has provided the required data on various environmental aspects.
- Under the determination of Sea Water Use Classification for coastal waters project, both primary and secondary data on environmental parameters collected at Vishakhapatnam & Krishnapatnam.
- Data was collected to determine No Impact Zone of Coringa from developmental & other activities.
- Information on Potential Fishing Zones derived from Satellite Observation is provided to the coastal fishermen through 17 nodal points spread over Andhra coast.
- Assessment of Marine Living Resources in the Indian EEZ is done